



U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement

July 13, 2005

# News Release

## **2 FUGITIVES ON THE RUN ARRESTED BY ICE**

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico—A 23-year-old fugitive wanted by authorities in Rhode Island since Feb. 1, 2005 for charges of assault with intent to commit murder was arrested here today by special agents of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Pedro Torres, a United States citizen living in Ponce, Puerto Rico has been on the run and in hiding since February. Torres, who was arrested by the Rhode Island Police Department, fled to Puerto Rico upon his release on bond.

He is currently in the custody of the Puerto Rico Police Department awaiting extradition to Rhode Island.

In a similar incident, today ICE agents arrested 48 year-old Pedro Diaz, from Humacao, Puerto Rico after his arrival at the Luis Munoz Marin International Airport. Diaz, who was arriving from Mexico City, had been evading justice since 2003. ICE agents turned Diaz over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to face Medicare and passport fraud charges.

“Criminals who think that they can evade justice by hiding in Puerto Rico need to think twice,” said Lydia St. John-Mellado, acting special agent-in-charge in Puerto Rico. “We will remain vigilant and continue to work with our law enforcement partners at the federal, state and local level to identify and arrest perpetrators of the law.”

# ICE #

*U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.*